

CLAIMS

1. A method for controlling at least one thyristor (TH) constitutive of a rectifying bridge with a filtered output, comprising:

5 closing the thyristor (TH) when the voltage thereacross becomes greater than zero; and

making the gate current of the thyristor disappear when the current therein exceeds its latching current.

10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the voltage across the thyristor (TH) is measured by a unidirectional resistive rectifying bridge (R1-R2).

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the latching current in the thyristor (TH) is detected by measuring the voltage thereacross.

15 4. A circuit for controlling at least one thyristor (TH) constitutive of a rectifying bridge with a filtered output, comprising:

a first comparator (121) for controlling a circuit providing a gate current to the thyristor, said comparator detecting that the voltage across the thyristor becomes positive; and

20 an element for inhibiting the gate current circuit as soon as a current in the thyristor is greater than its latching current.

25 5. The circuit of claim 4, wherein said first comparator comprises a first input which receives the midpoint of a resistive dividing bridge (R1-R2) having its terminals connected, via a diode (D), to the terminals (A, K) of the thyristor (TH), and a second input which receives a first reference voltage (Vref1, VBEN).

30 6. The circuit of claim 4, wherein said first comparator comprises a first bipolar transistor (T2), the base-emitter voltage drop (VBEN) of which conditions said first reference voltage.

7. The circuit of claim 4, wherein the gate current circuit is formed of a constant current source (10; D3, D4, T1, R4) controlled by a switch (K, T1) connected to the gate (G) of the thyristor (TH).

5 8. The circuit of claim 7, wherein said first comparator comprises a first bipolar transistor (T2), the base-emitter voltage drop (VBEN) of which conditions said first reference voltage, and wherein the gate current circuit comprises a second bipolar transistor (T1) having its base connected to the collector of the first transistor (T2), the emitter of the second transistor being connected to a terminal of application of a D.C. 10 supply voltage (Vcc) via a resistor (R4) and its base being connected to this D.C. supply voltage by two diodes (D3, D4) in series.

9. The circuit of claim 5, comprising:
a second comparator (131) having an input receiving a voltage proportional to the 15 current in the thyristor (TH) and a second input receiving a second reference voltage (Vref2); and
a flip-flop (11), the respective set (S) and reset (R) inputs of which receive the outputs of the first and second comparators, and the output (O) of which is connected to a switch (K) for providing a gate current to the thyristor.

20 10. The control circuit of claim 5, controlling several thyristors (TH1, TH2).

11. A controllable rectifying bridge comprising at least one thyristor (TH1, TH2), comprising the control circuit of claim 5.